REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, and 9 have been examined and rejected on prior art grounds.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 5, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly

being unpatentable over Kodimer (U.S. Patent No. 5,781,192) in view of Goldstein (U.S. Patent

Publication No. 2002/0143985). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

For example, claim 1 recites an apparatus for executing a multi-clipboard, the apparatus

comprising a basic clipboard in which the latest copied or cut data is stored, and a multi-

clipboard in which other data stored in the basic clipboard is stored if the latest copied or cut data

has been stored in the basic clipboard. A basic clipboard executing unit pastes the data stored in

the basic clipboard if the paste menu is selected before an amount of time counted by a timer is

greater than a predetermined amount of time. A multi-clipboard executing unit displays the data,

including a plurality of items, stored in the multi-clipboard on an output unit if the paste menu is

selected after the amount of time counted by the timer is greater than the predetermined amount

of time. Also, if a user input indicating a user's selection of one item of the plurality of items

included in the displayed data is received, the multi-clipboard executing unit pastes the selected

item of the displayed data.

Kodimer is directed to an operating system 100 which includes a copystack memory 106

with a plurality of memory buffers into which data can be stored. A user may cut or copy data

into any of the memory buffers. If the user wishes to paste data stored in the copystack memory

106, the user selects a paste operation, which automatically brings up a menu 236 which shows

which of the memory buffers in the copystack 106 are available to recall data from. The user can

select any of the displayed memory buffers to paste data from.

Goldstein is directed to a method of intersystem cut and paste in which substantially

dedicated keystroke sequences are employed for copying to the shared memory buffer 280. A

user may indicate a desire to copy information by depressing the "Ctrl" key and then, within a

predetermined time, depressing the "c" key. If the time elapsed between the keystrokes is within

the predetermined time limit, the selected information is copied to the shared memory buffer

280. This technique may be applied to cut or paste operations, as well.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that Kodimer's operating system

100 corresponds to the claimed multi-clipboard executing unit. However, Kodimer discloses that

menu 236 displays which of the memory buffers are available to recall data from (col. 8, lines

35-42). As shown in Figure 9b, menu 236 merely displays the numbers of the memory buffers

into which data has been stored. Kodimer is silent about displaying the data which is actually

stored in the memory buffers. Thus, Kodimer does not teach or suggest a multi-clipboard

executing unit which displays data, including a plurality of items, stored in the multi-clipboard

on an output unit, as recited by claim 1. Goldstein does not cure this deficiency.

The Examiner also alleges that Kodimer's memory buffers correspond to the claimed

basic clipboard and multi-clipboard. However, Kodimer discloses that when a user wishes to

copy data into the copystack 106, a menu 216 is displayed to show which of the memory buffers

are available for storing data (col. 7, lines 40-45). Clearly, once data is written into a memory

buffer, that memory buffer is not available for storing any more data, and a user must select

among other memory buffers to store data. In other words, Kodimer's memory buffers do not

operate as a queue in which the most recently stored data is stored in a particular memory buffer,

and the data previously stored in that particular memory buffer is moved to another memory

buffer. Instead, a user may only cut and copy data into memory buffers in which data is not

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stored. Thus, Kodimer does not teach or suggest that other data stored in the basic clipboard is

stored in the multi-clipboard if the latest copied or cut data has been stored in the basic clipboard,

as recited by claim 1. Goldstein does not cure this deficiency.

The Examiner admits that Kodimer does not teach the claimed timer, basic clipboard

executing unit, or that data displayed by the multi-clipboard executing unit is displayed if the

paste menu is selected after the amount of time counted by the timer is greater than a

predetermined amount of time. The Examiner contends that Goldstein cures these deficiencies.

In particular, the Examiner asserts that Goldstein teaches various techniques for using a variety

of timed sequences of keystrokes to control a paste operation, including performing an operation

after a time has elapsed or before. In conclusion, the Examiner alleges that it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kodimer's system to include the time delay

and keystroke sequences of Goldstein to allow for a specific command to be executed at a point

in time. The Examiner asserts that the motivation for such a combination comes from

Goldstein's suggestion that the system can recognize certain keystrokes to indicate the user's

intent to perform a paste operation. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's

position.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has provided no explanation of how the systems of

Kodimer and Goldstein would have been combined by one of ordinary skill in the art. Instead,

the Examiner generally asserts that Goldstein discloses a "variety of timed sequences of

keystrokes" and that one of ordinary skill in the art would have included Goldstein's time delay

in Kodimer's system. However, it is unclear how Goldstein's timed sequences would be

incorporated into Kodimer's system. Applicants submit that the Examiner has merely dissected

the claim into discrete components and applied individual pieces of prior art. Such a hindsight

reconstruction is not the characteristic of obviousness.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that no fathomable combination of Goldstein and

Kodimer's teachings would arrive at the claimed invention. In particular, Goldstein indicates

that an operation is performed (e.g. a paste operation) if a user depresses a particular key within a

predetermined time period after depressing the "Ctrl" key (paragraph 22). Kodimer teaches

displaying a menu 236 of memory buffers containing data which can be pasted. The Examiner

seems to allege that Goldstein's predetermined time period corresponds to the claimed amount of

time counted by the timer. If such a predetermined time period were applied to Kodimer's

system, the combined system would have to teach displaying Kodimer's menu 236 after the

predetermined time period in order to read on the claimed multi-clipboard executing unit.

Otherwise, the combined system would not teach or suggest displaying data stored in the multi-

clipboard if the paste menu is selected after the time counted by the timer is greater than the

predetermined amount of time, as recited by claim 1. However, there is no teaching or

suggestion in Kodimer that would motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to wait until after

Goldstein's predetermined period of time to display menu 236. Such a delay would serve no

purpose except to cause a user to wait before performing a paste operation.

Moreover, in order to perform a paste operation, Kodimer requires that menu 236 be

displayed and that a user choose a memory buffer which contains data. If this menu 236 is

displayed after the predetermined amount of time, it would be impossible to paste data before the

predetermined amount of time. Thus, if Kodimer's system were to incorporate the teachings of

Goldstein, as asserted by the Examiner, the combined system would not teach or suggest a basic

clipboard executing unit which pastes the data stored in the basic clipboard if the paste menu is

selected <u>before</u> the amount of time counted by the timer is greater than a predetermined amount

of time, as recited by claim 1.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is not rendered

unpatentable by Kodimer and Goldstein. Applicants also submit that claim 2, being dependent

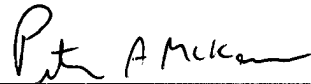on claim 1, is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

Claim 5 recites features similar to those discussed above in conjunction with claim 1.

Thus, Applicants submit that claim 5 is patentable at least for reasons analogous to those

discussed above regarding claim 1. Applicants also submit that claims 8 and 9, being dependent

on claim 5, are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

                                        Respectfully submitted,

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